

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Akihiro HASHIGUCHI

Appln. No. NOT YET ASSIGNED

Confirmation No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Group Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: February 7, 2002

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

For: HEAT DEVELOPING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

J1046 U.S. PTO  
10/067294  
02/07/02



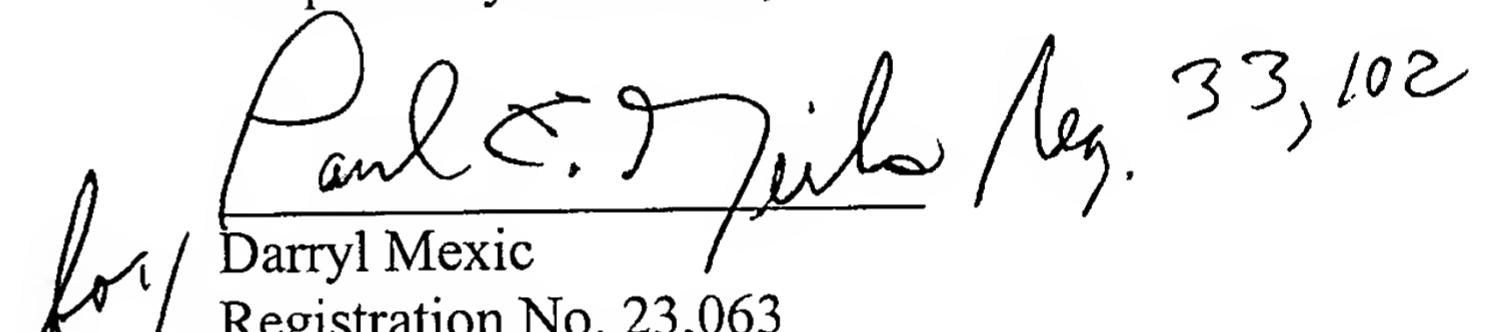
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
Q68446

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

**JP-A 2000-241928 is cited in the specification of the above-identified application.**

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
for/ Paul C. Tjibauev, Reg. 33,102  
Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860  
DM/slb  
Date: February 7, 2002

<p>Substitute for form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>			
<i>Complete if Known</i>			
Application Number		NOT YET ASSIGNED	
Confirmation Number		NOT YET ASSIGNED	
Filing Date		February 07, 2002	
First Named Inventor		Akihiro HASHIGUCHI	
Art Unit		NOT YET ASSIGNED	
Examiner Name		NOT YET ASSIGNED	
Attorney Docket Number		Q68446	
Sheet	1	of	1

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.